

Remarks

Upon entry of the present amendment claims 1 and 3-34 remain in the application. Claim 2 is canceled without prejudice.

35 USC §102(b) Rejection

Claims 1, 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Short. Short was cited for its disclosure of coating compositions comprising a hydroxyl functional component made from polyisocyanate and diethanolamine combined with a melamine crosslinker together with white pigment and solvent.

35 USC §103(a) Rejection

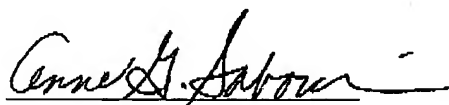
Claims 3, and 4 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Short. The office action stated that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use higher functional polyisocyanates because Short teaches a functionality of at least 2 to promote crosslinking.

Applicants submit that the instant claims are not anticipated or obvious in view of the cited reference for the reason that the instant claims depend from claim 1 which now defines a reactive compound having a functionality of three (3), not taught by the reference.

Claims 2 and 5-7 were objected to as depending on rejected claims. Claim 1 defines a reactive compound having three hydroxyl groups and is believed to be patentably distinct from the cited art. Claim 2 is canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of and/or objections to claims 1 and 3-9 and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-33 were indicated to be allowed. Applicants submit that there is an additional claim 34 not referred to which is believed to be allowable as well. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance with respect to claims 1 and 3-34

Respectfully submitted,



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